

May River Watershed Action Plan Advisory Committee Meeting

Virtually Held on Microsoft Teams

January 23, 2025

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Rogers called the meeting to order at 3:00pm.

Chairman Rogers stated the meeting was being recorded for Town records.

II. ROLL CALL

PRESENT

Amber Kuehn

Vice Chair Al Stokes

Chair Stan Rogers

Jessie White

Chris Kehrer

ABSENT

Chris Shoemaker

Larry Toomer

III. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1. Adoption of December 5th, 2024 Minutes

The committee voted unanimously to adopt the December 5th, 2024 meeting minutes.

Motion made by Stokes, Seconded by White

Voting Yea: Kuehn, Vice-Chair Stokes, Chair Rogers, White, Kehrer

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

V. OLD BUSINESS

1. Update on Work to Develop Town Wetland and Resiliency Zone Protections and Wetlands Restoration Program Data Gathering - Beth Lewis, Water Quality Program Manager

Ms. Lewis provided an update to the committee regarding Town Council's decision during their January meeting. Ms. Lewis stated Council authorized the Town Manager to issue a Master Service Agreement (MSA) task authorization for work related to the development of ordinances that will protect wetlands and enhance resiliency. Ms. Lewis stated directly following Town Council's approval, the Town Manager executed the task authorization and staff held the project kickoff meeting with the consultant team. Ms. Lewis stated that staff would keep the committee informed, as needed.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

1. Introduction of New Stormwater Inspector - Bill Baugher, Watershed Management Division Director

Mr. Baugher introduced the new Town of Bluffton Stormwater Inspector, Konnor Harrell, to the committee.

2. May River Watershed Action Plan Implementation Status Report - Dan Rybak, Project Manager

Mr. Rybak provided the committee with an update on the status of May River Watershed Action Plan and Modeling Report projects. He then detailed three (3) of these projects proposed for funding in Fiscal Year 2026. The committee unanimously recommended that the Town Council allocate funds for the proposed May River Watershed Action Plan Impervious Restoration Projects as part of the Town's Fiscal Year 2026 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) budget, as presented.

Motion made by Kehrer, Seconded by White.

Voting Yea: Kuehn, Vice-Chair Stokes, Chair Rogers, White, Kehrer

3. Progress Report on the May River Watershed Baseline Assessment - Beth Lewis, Water Quality Program Manager

Ms. Lewis shared the Preliminary Land Use Assessment Report conducted by the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources (SCDNR) as part of the ongoing May River Watershed Baseline Assessment Update. Ms. Lewis also informed the committee that this study will be completed soon. Dr. Tweel, the Principal Investigator for the project, will attend the April WAPAC meeting to present the study's findings.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The committee unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 4:02pm.

Motion made by White, Seconded by Kehrer.

Voting Yea: Kuehn, Vice Chair Stokes, White, Kehrer

NEXT MEETING DATE: April 24th, 2025